

AN

Nonēber habet die^s
xxi. luna xxx.

d Festum oīz scōm.

xiii e Comemoratio defūc.

ii f

x g
a Natalis agricole
b

xviii c Leonardi confes.

vii d Prothasii e. pad.

xv e
f Dedicatio saluatoris.

iiii g

a Joānis epi.

xii. b

i c



d

ix. e

f

ebng

vi a

b

vi c

vi d

vi e

vi f

ix g

a

vi b

c

vi d

e

Elisabeth.

Dauid abb. m.

Cecilie virgi.

Clementis pp.

Susogoni mris.

Catherine vir.

Petri alexan.

Saturnini. Vig.

Andree apli.



MEDIEVAL BOOK OF HOURS CALENDAR LEAF, c. 1470 - NOVEMBER

IM-7974: (96 x 70mm) Original leaf from a medieval manuscript *Book of Hours*. 16 lines of text, ruled in violet, written in Latin with dark brown ink on animal vellum. Major feast days in **red** (origin of term 'red-letter day'). Large "KL" initials (for KALENDAS) are in deep blue with delicate red penwork. **Northern Italy (probably Ferrara), c. 1470.**

The colorful initials are characteristic of Ferrarese illumination of the 1470's – especially the work of Guglielmo Giraldi (Ref: Toniolo, *La miniature a Ferrara* (1998), pp. 214-223). The precise & elegant penwork flourishing is also represented in manuscripts of that workshop & similar to the ornamentation found in the pattern book of Guinfortus de Vicomercato (Ref: J. G. Alexander, *The Painted Page*, London 1994, p. 109).

Among the feasts listed are **St. Elizabeth** (19th), **St. Maurice** (22nd), **St. Catherine of Alexandria** (25th – Patron Saint of Preachers and Philosophers) and **St. Andrew** (30th – Patron Saint of Scotland and Weddings).

Left of the saints' days are repeating letters *A - G* called **Dominical Letters** since they help find Sundays. Far left is a column of Roman numerals *i - xix* called **Golden Numbers** to indicate appearances of new moons, & counting ahead 14 days, full moons throughout the year (year + 1; divide by 19; remainder is Golden Number - if zero GN = 19). Finally: each month had 3 fixed points: Kalends (1st day) Ides (middle) & Nones (9th day before Ides). All days in between were counted **backwards** from these points.